

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The office action of December 8, 2004 has been carefully reviewed and these remarks are responsive thereto. Reconsideration and allowance of the instant application are respectfully requested. Claims 1-12 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer and new claims 13-18 have been added. Support for new claims 13-16 can be found at least on pages 6-10 of the specification and Figs. 1-4. Support for new claim 17 can be found at least on pages 10-11 of the specification and Fig. 6. Support for new claim 18 can be found at least on pages 11-14 of the specification and Figs. 7-8. No new matter has been added.

Claims 1, 3-7, and 9-12 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Fraccaroli (US 6,549,768). Claims 2 and 8 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) over Fraccaroli in view of Hoshen (US 5,461,390).

Claims 1-12 have been canceled and new claims 13-18 have been added. To the extent that the rejections would be applied to the new claims, the rejections are traversed.

New independent claim 13 is directed to a position information management system comprising a user information server and a position information management server.

The user information server includes:

a user information database which stores address information and release information corresponding to the address information;

means for receiving a position request from a requesting terminal including address information belonging to a requested terminal;

means for checking whether the address information included in the position request is stored in the user information database and the release information indicates release; and

means for requesting the position information management server to provide position information for the requested terminal.

The position information management server includes

means for managing position information of terminals; and

means for providing the position information corresponding to the request from the user information server.

New independent claims 17 and 18 are similar to claim 13 but are directed to schedule information and area information, respectively, instead of address information.

Fraccaroli does not teach or suggest a position information management system comprising a user information server and a position information management server, wherein the user information server not only includes a user information database, but also checks whether the address (or schedule or area) information included in a position request is stored in the user information database and whether the release information indicates that the position information is permitted to be released. Nor does Fraccaroli teach or suggest requesting the position information of a terminal from the position information management server, or that the position information management server provides the position information corresponding to the request from the user information server.

In view of the above, Fraccaroli neither anticipates nor renders obvious the instant claims. Hoshen does not remedy the defects of Fraccaroli. For at least the above reasons, the combination of Fraccaroli and Hoshen, even if proper, does not result in the invention of claims 13-18.

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Reply to Office Action of December 8, 2004

CONCLUSION

It is believed that no fee is required for this submission. If any fees are required or if an overpayment is made, the Commissioner is authorized to debit or credit our Deposit Account No. 19-0733, accordingly.

All rejections having been addressed, applicants respectfully submit that the instant application is in condition for allowance, and respectfully solicit prompt notification of the same.

Respectfully submitted,

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